GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1801
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2000
PRIVATE HOSPITALS
RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is obligatory for private hospitals to keep 40 to 50 beds free of charge for poor patients;

(b) whether most of the private hospitals are not observing this norm; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken against them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SH SHANMUGAM)
(a) Private hospitals which availed themselves of Custom DutyExemption under notification No.64/88-Cus., dated 1-3-88 on import of medical equipments are liable to provide at least 40% free treatment for OPD patients and free treatment to all Indoor patients belonging to families with income less than Rs.500/- per month and reserve 10% of Indoor beds for such patients.

(b)&(c) Institutions which availed themselves of benefits for Custom Duty Exemption under the said notification are being reviewed strictly in terms of judgement given by Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal No.16735 of 1996 delivered on 17-12-96 and the custom duty exemption certificates are withdrawn from the Institutions not fulfilling the stipulated conditions.